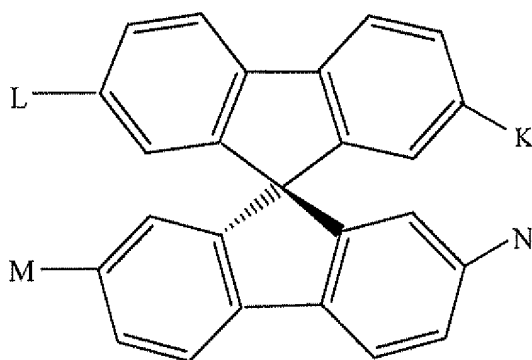


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Previously presented) Spirobifluorene ("SBF") derivatives and corresponding radical anions having the following general formula (II):



in which K, L, M and N, the same or different from each other, are independently: H or A-C=O, with the proviso that it is never K = L = M = N = H, wherein A is an aromatic group bearing at least one radical R, with R = H or aliphatic group.

2. (Original) Spirobifluorene derivatives and corresponding radical anions according to claim 1 wherein A is selected among: aromatic groups, aromatic groups containing heteroatoms, condensed aromatic groups, condensed aromatic groups containing heteroatoms, and corresponding derivatives.

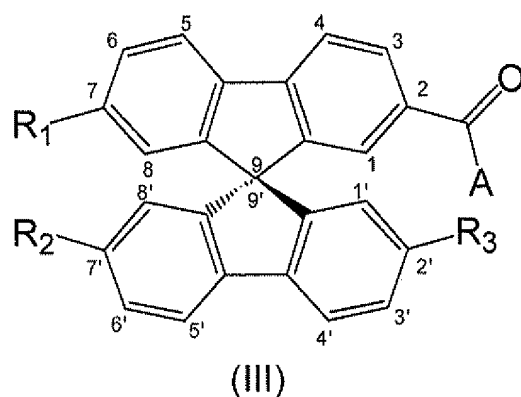
3. (Original) Spirobifluorene derivatives and corresponding radical anions according to claim 1 wherein A is selected in the group of the following derivatives: phenyl, biphenyl, 1-naphthyl, 2-naphthyl, 2-thienyl, 2-furyl, 2-pyrrolyl, 3-thienyl, 3-furyl, 3-pyrrolyl, 9-anthryl, biphenylenyl, perylenyl, fullereryl, and corresponding derivatives.

4. (Previously presented) Spirobifluorene derivatives and corresponding radical anions according to claim 1 wherein R = linear, branched or cyclic aliphatic C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>n</sub>, with n positive integer  $\geq 0$ .

5. (Previously presented) Spirobifluorene derivatives and corresponding radical anions according to claim 1 wherein A is substituted with at least one R' group where R' is selected in

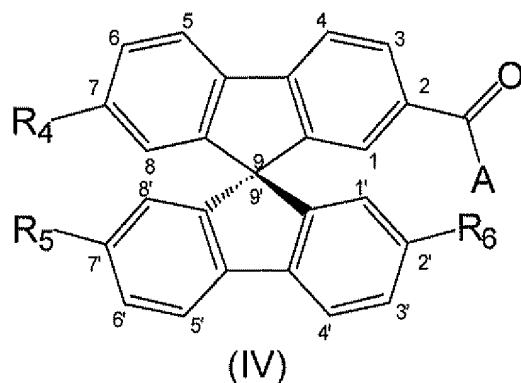
the group of: halogens, trifluoromethyl, hydroxyl, -SH, -SC[C<sub>1-6</sub>(alkyl)], alkoxy, nitro, cyano, -COOH, -COOC[C<sub>1-4</sub>(alkyl)], -NH<sub>2</sub>, -NC[C<sub>1-4</sub>(alkyl)]<sub>2</sub>, benzyl, or benzoyl.

6. (Original) Spirobifluorene derivatives having the general formula (III) and corresponding radical anions:



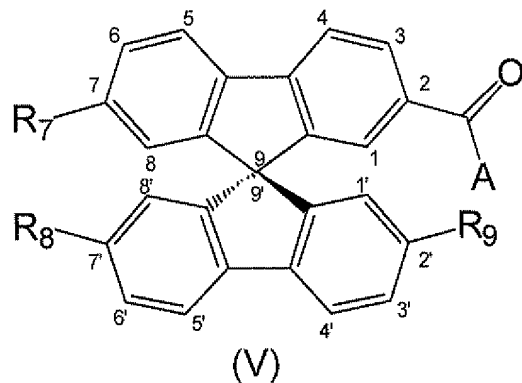
wherein A is an aromatic group and  $R_1 = R_2 = R_3 = H$ ; or  $R_1 = R_3 = H$  and  $R_2 = C_{1-6}(\text{alkyl})$ ; or  $R_1 = R_2 = H$  and  $R_3 = C_{1-6}(\text{alkyl})$ ; or  $R_2 = H$  and  $R_1 = R_3 = C_{1-6}(\text{alkyl})$ .

7. (Original) Spirobifluorene derivatives having the general formula (IV) and corresponding radical anions:



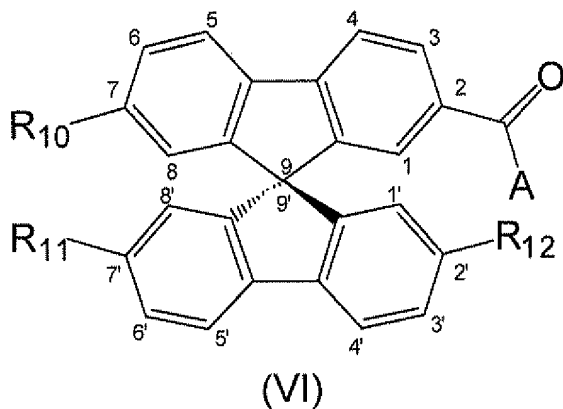
wherein  $R_5 = A-C=O$  with A = aromatic group and  $R_4 = R_6 = H$ ; or  $R_5 = A-C=O$  and  $R_4 = R_6 = C_{1-4}(\text{alkyl})$ ; or  $R_6 = A-C=O$  and  $R_4 = R_5 = H$ ; or  $R_6 = A-C=O$  and  $R_4 = R_5 = C_{1-4}(\text{alkyl})$ .

8. (Original) Spirobifluorene derivatives having the general formula (V) and corresponding radical anions:



wherein  $R_7 = R_9 = A-C=O$  with  $A$  = aromatic group and  $R_8 = H$ ; or  $R_7 = R_9 = A-C=O$  and  $R_8 = C_{1-4}(\text{alkyl})$ .

9. (Original) Spirobifluorene derivatives having the general formula (VI) and corresponding radical anions;



wherein  $R_{10} = R_{11} = R_{12} = A-C=O$  with  $A$  = aromatic group.

10. (Previously presented) Spirobifluorene derivatives and corresponding radical anions according to claim 6 wherein A is selected among: aromatic groups, aromatic groups containing heteroatoms, condensed aromatic groups, condensed aromatic groups containing heteroatoms, and corresponding derivatives.
11. (Previously presented) Spirobifluorene derivatives and corresponding radical anions according to claim 6 wherein A is selected in the group of: phenyl, biphenyl, 1-naphthyl, 2-naphthyl, 2-thienyl, 2-furyl, 2-pyrrolyl, 3-thienyl, 3-furyl, 3-pyrrolyl, 9-anthryl, biphenylenyl, perylenyl, fullereryl, and corresponding derivatives.
12. (Original) Spirobifluorene derivatives and corresponding radical anions according to claim 1 wherein  $L = M = N = H$  and  $K = A-C=O$  in position 2, with  $A = \text{phenyl}$  and  $R = H$ .
13. (Currently amended) Spirobifluorene derivatives and corresponding radical anions according to claim 1 wherein  $L = N = H$ , ~~K and M~~ K and N in position 2 and 2' are  $A-C=O$ , with  $A = \text{phenyl}$  and  $R = H$ .
14. (Original) Spirobifluorene derivatives and corresponding radical anions according to claim 1 wherein  $L = N = H$ , K and M in position 2 and 7' are  $A-C=O$ , with  $A = \text{phenyl}$  and  $R = H$ .
15. (Original) Spirobifluorene derivatives and corresponding radical anions according to claim 1 wherein  $L = M = N = H$ , K in position 2 is  $A-C=O$  with  $A = \text{phenyl}$  and  $R = \text{p-tert-Bu}$ .
16. (Currently amended) Spirobifluorene derivatives and corresponding anionic radicals according to claim 1 wherein is:  $L = N = H$ , ~~K and M~~ K and N in position 2 and 2' are  $A-C=O$ , with  $A = \text{phenyl}$  and  $R = \text{p-tert-Bu}$ .
17. (Currently amended) Spirobifluorene derivatives and corresponding radical anions according to claim 1 wherein is:  $L = M = H$ , ~~K and N~~ K and M in position 2 and 7' are  $A-C=O$ , with  $A = \text{phenyl}$  and  $R = \text{p-tert-Bu}$ .

18. (Previously presented) Spirobifluorene derivatives and corresponding radical anions according to claim 1 as a mixture of them as enantiomers.
19. (Previously presented) Spirobifluorene derivatives and corresponding radical anions according to claim 1 in optically pure form.
20. (Previously presented) Method for preparing the Spirobifluorene derivatives according to claim 1 comprising the following steps: use the non-functionalised SBF as the starting product (formula (I)) and add to it the compound  $A-C=OCl$  with  $A$  = aromatic group, in the presence of a Lewis acid in a solvent at a reaction temperature from 10 °C to reflux.
21. (Original) Method for preparing the Spirobifluorene derivatives according to claim 1 comprising the use, as intermediate, of SBF functionalised as acid chloride  $SBF(COCl)_x$ , with  $x$  positive integer  $\geq 1$  and equal to the number of substituents to be obtained on the SBF; said acid chloride is then combined with  $A-H$ , in which  $A$  = aromatic group, said acid chloride intermediate being prepared from the corresponding carboxylic acids of the SBF,  $SBF(COOH)_x$ , in turn obtained from the corresponding acetyl derivatives  $SBF(COCH_3)_x$ ,  $x$  having in both cases the above-mentioned meaning.
- 22- 24 cancelled
25. (Previously presented) Electrochemical method for preparing the radical anions corresponding to the derivatives of the SBF according to claim 1, said method being characterised in that said derivatives, to be transformed into radical anions, at a concentration between 0.1 M and 0.1 mM, are added to an anhydrous aprotic solvent containing a supporting electrolyte, also anhydrous, in order to obtain a concentration of the latter of between 1 M and 0.01 M the mixture then being placed in an electrolysis cell and a d.d.p. applied between the electrodes in order to obtain the required radical anion.
26. (Previously presented) Electronic devices comprising elements provided on their surface with at least one layer of a film or coating comprising at least one of the compounds according to claim 1.

27. cancelled.

28. (Previously presented) Systems for electroluminescence, molecular-based computational systems, OLEDs, molecular switching components, components for non-linear optics, molecular-based computational systems, field-effect transistors, semiconductors with negative differential resistance, said systems comprising elements provided on their surface with at least one layer of a film or coating comprising at least one of the compounds according to claim 1.

29. (Previously presented) 9,9'-Spirobi[9H-fluorene]-2,-carbonyl chloride, 9,9'-Spirobi[9H-fluorene]-2,2',7-tricarbonyl trichloride or 9,9'-Spirobi[9H-fluorene]-2,2',7-7'-tetracarbonyl tetrachloride.